

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of providing an identifier for a file, said method comprising:
2 accessing said file;
3 deriving a frequency representation of said file;
4 providing a file name for said file;
5 providing said file name in a directory;
6 associating said frequency representation of said file with said file name so
7 that said frequency representation is accessible via said directory.

1 2. The method as described in claim 1 wherein said frequency
2 representation comprises a Fast Fourier Transform.

1 3. The method as described in claim 1 and further comprising:
2 configuring an address listing with an identifier for said frequency
3 representation.

1 4. A method of searching for a file, said method comprising:
2 obtaining a first frequency representation of a desired file;
3 accessing a first unknown file;
4 obtaining a second frequency representation of said unknown file;
5 comparing said first frequency representation with said second frequency
6 representation; and
7 determining from said comparing whether said unknown file is said desired
8 file.

1 5. The method as described in claim 4 wherein said obtaining said first
2 frequency representation of said desired file comprises:
3 performing a Fast Fourier Transform algorithm.

1 6. The method as described in claim 4 wherein said obtaining said first
2 frequency representation comprises performing a Discrete Fourier Transform.

1 7. The method as described in claim 4 wherein said comparing said first
2 frequency representation with said second frequency representation comprises:

3 comparing a range of frequencies of said first and second frequency
4 representations.

1 8. The method as described in claim 4 and further comprising:
2 decoding said unknown file.

1 9. A method of determining redundancies in a content object directory,
2 said method comprising:

3 accessing a plurality of files stored on a memory, wherein each of said files is
4 configured so as to be identified by a fingerprint;

5 for each of said files, determining said fingerprint;

6 establishing a redundancy standard so as to indicate whether any two of said
7 fingerprints of said files are redundant of one another;

8 comparing said fingerprints determined for each of said files;

9 determining redundant files based upon said comparing said fingerprints and
10 said redundancy standard.

1 10. The method as described in claim 9 and further comprising:
2 deleting at least one redundant file from said memory.

1 11. The method as described in claim 9 and further comprising:
2 utilizing a Fast Fourier Transform algorithm to compute said fingerprint.

1 12. The method as described in claim 9 and further comprising:
2 utilizing a watermark as said fingerprint.

- 1 13. The method as described in claim 9 and further comprising:
2 utilizing cyclical redundancy check data as said fingerprint.
- 1 14. The method as described in claim 9 wherein said accessing a plurality
2 of files comprises:
3 accessing a plurality of files comprising video data.
- 1 15. The method as described in claim 9 wherein said accessing a plurality
2 of files comprises:
3 accessing a plurality of files comprising audio data.
- 1 16. The method as described in claim 9 wherein said establishing a
2 redundancy standard comprises:
3 determining a range of frequencies in a pattern of frequencies from a Fast
4 Fourier Transform for comparison of said fingerprints.
- 1 17. The method as described in claim 9 and further comprising:
2 appending a fingerprint as metadata to at least one directory listing.
- 1 18. The method as described in claim 9 and further comprising:
2 cataloging in a database said fingerprint with the file from which said
3 fingerprint was generated.